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235
DIGITAL
EDITION

SPAWN®



McFARLANE
+ CO.



Bluddlines

PREVIOUSLY IN SPAWN

After successfully fending off the K7-Leetha's latest attempt to control him, Jim finds himself lost in the "white," a featureless and infinite realm of light. Searching for answers, Jim comes across an unexpected ally.

Max Williams, the deceased son of Detective Twitch Williams, has been lost in the "white" since his death years ago, and he has come to Jim with a warning – Bludd is far more dangerous than Jim knows.

Meanwhile, the Curse continues to torment one of the people Jim healed with his gifts, only to be interrupted by a strange priest. Daniel Kilgore/Haunt, has returned, drawn to the darkness of the Curse's vile act.



Jim Downing (Spawn) – A man whose past is shrouded in mystery, and connected intimately to the very fabric of the Spawn mythos, Jim is the world's newest Hellspawn...and so much more. Having spent years in a deep coma, Jim's main drive is piecing together the fragments of the man he was, in an effort to discover the man he truly is.



Father Hallwell – A representative from the Vatican who has been dispatched to communicate the desires of the Church with Jim in an effort to gauge the true nature of his "gifts". Using Sara's faith as leverage, Hallwell is hoping to further the Church's agenda – an agenda that may be more nefarious than anyone knows.



Detective "Twitch" Williams – Twitch, and his partner Sam, have long been embroiled in the deeper mysteries connected to the Hellspawn – first with Jim's predecessor, Al Simmons, and now with Jim. Twitch is unsure of Jim's true motivations, and is haunted by the painful reminder of his son, Max, that was result of his first encounter Jim.



Max Williams – The deceased son of Detective Twitch Williams, Max has an unfortunate and sorted past, despite an overall innocence of mind and spirit. Now trapped "between" life and death, Max holds information key to Jim's struggle for control.



Marc Rosen – A would-be reporter-turned-media manager and confidant of Jim Downing, Marc views Jim as his ticket to a better life – though the price for that success may be far greater than Marc knows.

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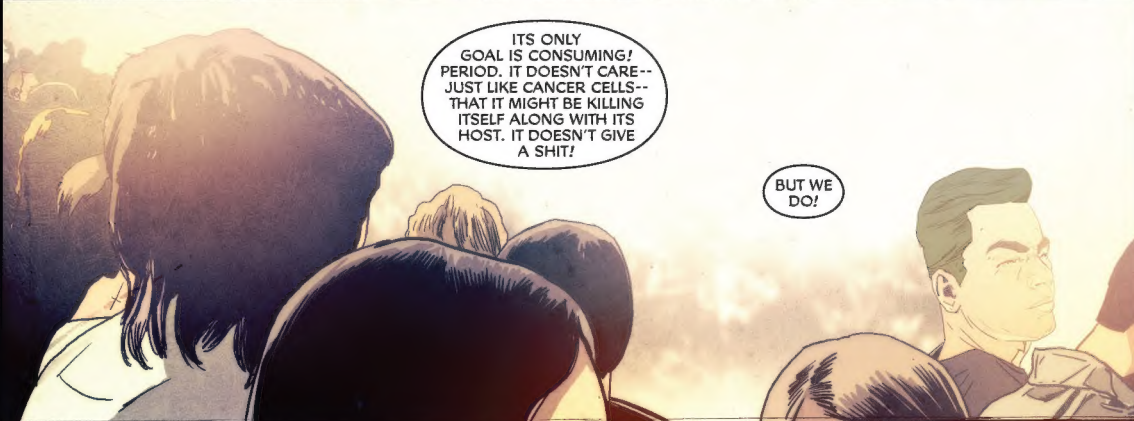
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I'VE SEEN
IT BEFORE. WE
ALL HAVE. GIVEN
ANY CHANCE-- EVIL
WILL DESTROY
EVERYTHING IN
ITS PATH.




YOU. ME.
EVERYTHING! WHAT
MAKES TRUE EVIL **SO**
DANGEROUS IS THAT
IT DOESN'T CARE IF IT
SURVIVES IN THE
PROCESS!



ITS ONLY
GOAL IS CONSUMING!
PERIOD. IT DOESN'T CARE--
JUST LIKE CANCER CELLS--
THAT IT MIGHT BE KILLING
ITSELF ALONG WITH ITS
HOST. IT DOESN'T GIVE
A SHIT!

BUT WE
DO!



AND WE'RE NOT
ABOUT TO STAND
AROUND BECOMING
COLLATERAL DAMAGE
BECAUSE OF ITS
PSYCHOSIS.

SO IF YOU'RE WONDERING WHY I TOLD YOU ABOUT MY BACKGROUND*-- IT'S BECAUSE YOU AREN'T THE ONLY ONE TRYING TO SORT OUT YOUR LIFE! YOU SENT MY DAD HERE! BUT HE'S NOT **ONE OF US!** WHICH MEANS PART OF YOU MUST BE STUCK IN LIMBO TOO. THAT'S THE ONLY WAY YOU'D HAVE ENOUGH POWER TO SEND HIM HERE.

IF YOU'RE LIKE US YOU'LL HELP! SIMMONS TRIED... BUT FAILED. I THINK THAT'S WHY HE LEFT AND CAME BACK WITH YOU! HE WANTED US TO BE ABLE TO RECOGNIZE YOU IF YOU EVER RETURNED. BECAUSE HE TOLD US YOU WOULDN'T REMEMBER ANY OF IT!

WAS HE RIGHT?

I KEEP HEARING THAT NAME-- AL SIMMONS. I DON'T KNOW ANYTHING ABOUT HIM. SO, DO I REMEMBER MEETING HIM? NO! DO I KNOW HOW I GOT HERE? NO!

YES, YOU DO!

THINK! WHAT WAS THE LAST THING YOU DID?

I'M... NOT SURE.

STOP LYING TO YOURSELF!! SOMETHING DROVE YOU TO USE YOUR POWERS! WHAT WAS IT?

WHAT WAS IT?!





THE...
COSTUME.




THAT'S
RIGHT, YOUR
COSTUME.
WHAT DO YOU
KNOW ABOUT
IT?




LOOK,
KID, I
DONT...

MY
NAME
IS
MAX.

ALRIGHT... MAX.
I'M SURE YOU'RE
TRYING TO HELP, BUT I DON'T
WANT IT. AND I'M GETTING
TIRED OF EVERYONE KNOWING
MORE ABOUT MY LIFE THAN ME!
SO I GET IT! I WAS A BAD GUY
IN MY PAST LIFE. DID SHITTY
THINGS TO PEOPLE. BUT NOW
I'VE GOT A SECOND CHANCE...
AND ALL I WANT... ALL I'M
LOOKING FOR IS SOME
NORMALCY.

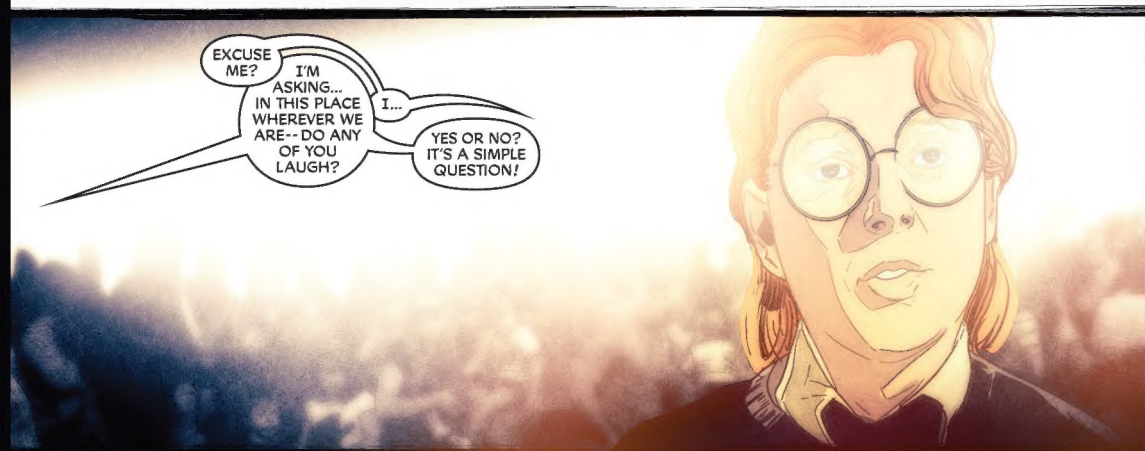


LOOK
AROUND,
JIM. DOES ANY
OF THIS SEEM
NORMAL TO
YOU?



IT'S TOO LATE
TO LEAD AN AVERAGE,
SIMPLE LIFE. YOU'RE A SPAWN.
THOUGH I SUSPECT YOU ALREADY
KNOW THAT. SO WAS SIMMONS. THE
PROBLEM WITH THAT IS IT COMES
WITH MANY COMPLICATIONS. AND
EVERYTHING YOU SEE NOW
IS ONE OF THOSE
COMPLICATIONS.

DO YOU
LAUGH?

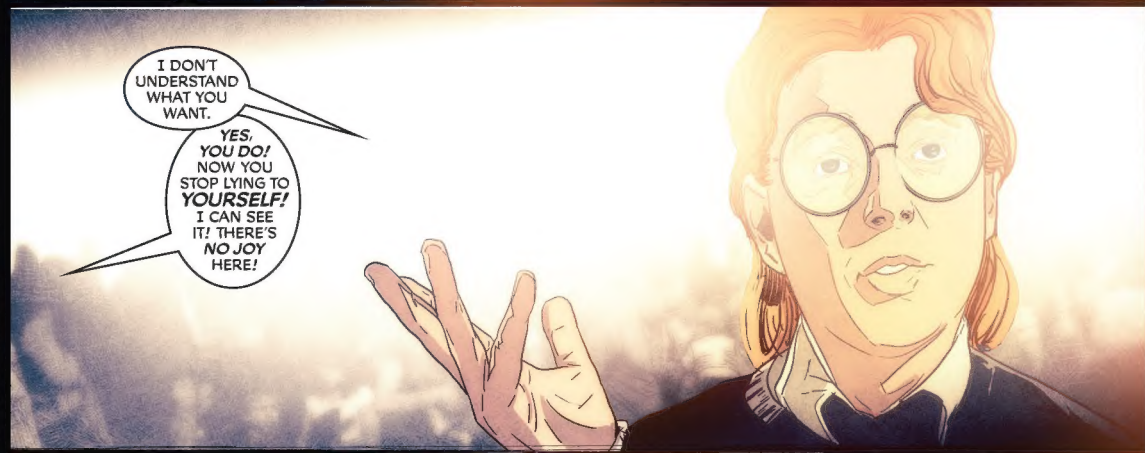


EXCUSE ME?

I'M ASKING... IN THIS PLACE WHEREVER WE ARE-- DO ANY OF YOU LAUGH?

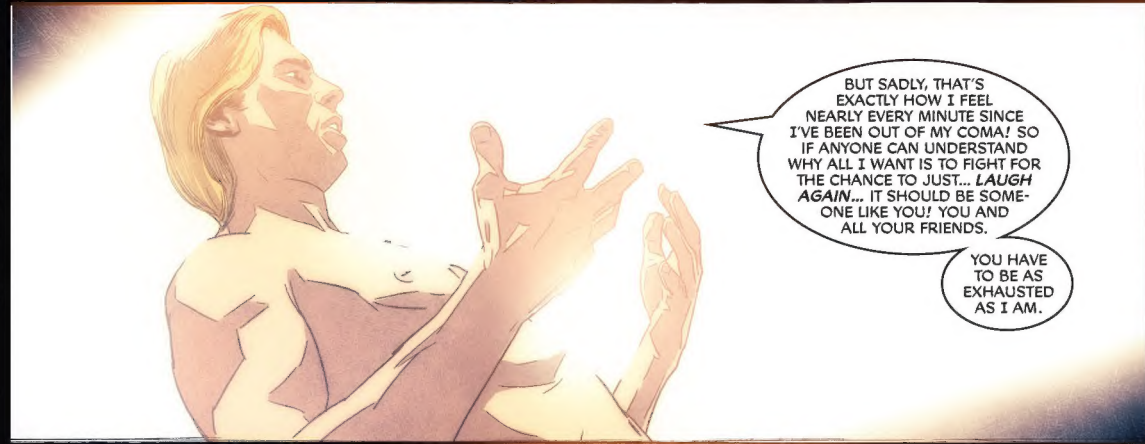
I...

YES OR NO? IT'S A SIMPLE QUESTION!



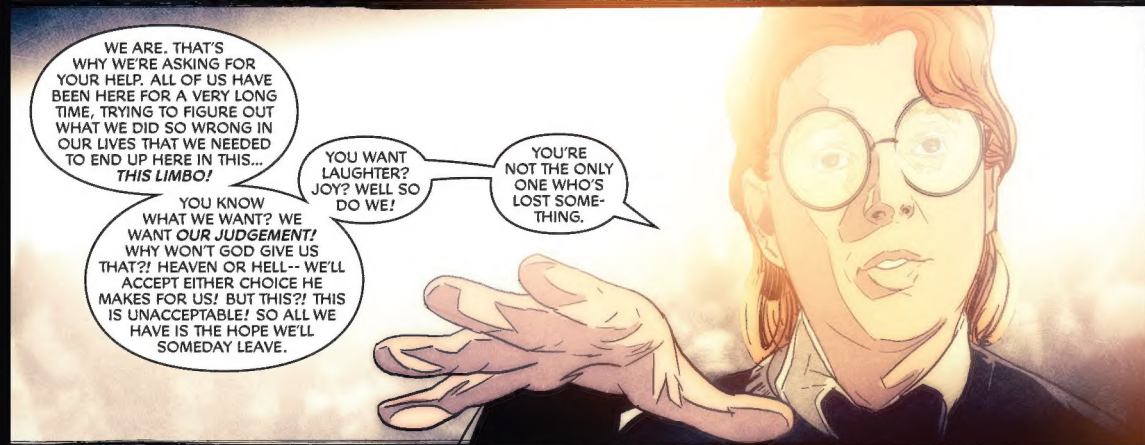
I DON'T UNDERSTAND WHAT YOU WANT.

YES, YOU DO! NOW YOU STOP LYING TO **YOURSELF!** I CAN SEE IT! THERE'S **NO JOY** HERE!



BUT SADLY, THAT'S EXACTLY HOW I FEEL NEARLY EVERY MINUTE SINCE I'VE BEEN OUT OF MY COMA! SO IF ANYONE CAN UNDERSTAND WHY ALL I WANT IS TO FIGHT FOR THE CHANCE TO JUST... **LAUGH AGAIN...** IT SHOULD BE SOMEONE LIKE YOU! YOU AND ALL YOUR FRIENDS.

YOU HAVE TO BE AS EXHAUSTED AS I AM.

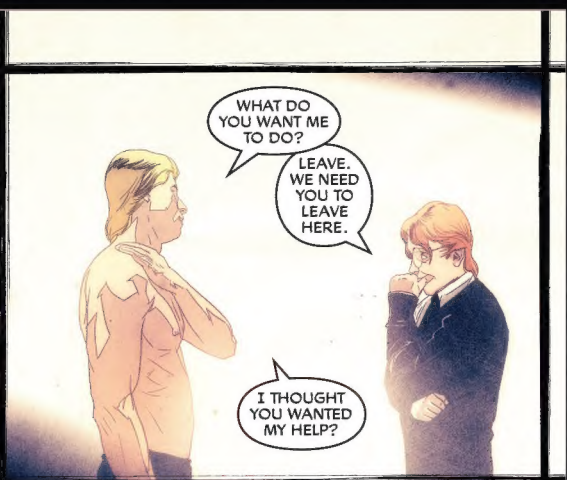
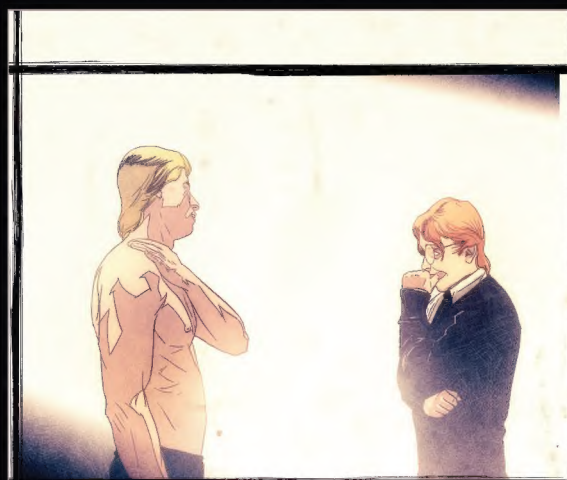


WE ARE. THAT'S WHY WE'RE ASKING FOR YOUR HELP. ALL OF US HAVE BEEN HERE FOR A VERY LONG TIME, TRYING TO FIGURE OUT WHAT WE DID SO WRONG IN OUR LIVES THAT WE NEEDED TO END UP HERE IN THIS... **THIS LIMBO!**

YOU KNOW WHAT WE WANT? WE WANT **OUR JUDGEMENT!** WHY WON'T GOD GIVE US THAT?! HEAVEN OR HELL-- WE'LL ACCEPT EITHER CHOICE HE MAKES FOR US! BUT THIS?! THIS IS UNACCEPTABLE! SO ALL WE HAVE IS THE HOPE WE'LL SOMEDAY LEAVE.

YOU WANT LAUGHTER? JOY? WELL SO DO WE!

YOU'RE NOT THE ONLY ONE WHO'S LOST SOMETHING.



WHAT DO YOU WANT ME TO DO?

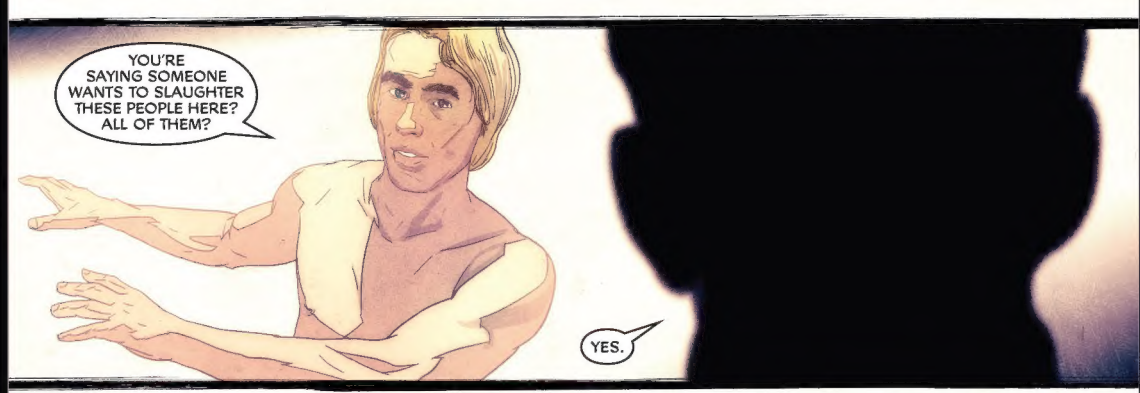
LEAVE. WE NEED YOU TO LEAVE HERE.

I THOUGHT YOU WANTED MY HELP?



WE DO. BUT THE BEST WAY TO GET THAT IS FOR YOU TO LEAVE. GO BACK TO WHERE YOU CAME FROM. THEN DESTROY YOUR COSTUME AND ANYONE SEEKING TO PROTECT IT!

BECAUSE... THERE'S A MAN... AND IF HE EVER GETS HIS HANDS ON YOUR SYMBIOTE-- HE'LL COME HERE FIRST AND KILL US ALL.



YOU'RE SAYING SOMEONE WANTS TO SLAUGHTER THESE PEOPLE HERE? ALL OF THEM?

YES.



WHY? WE'RE HIDING SOMETHING HE WANTS.

DOES HE HAVE A NAME?

THEY CALL HIM **BLUDD!**

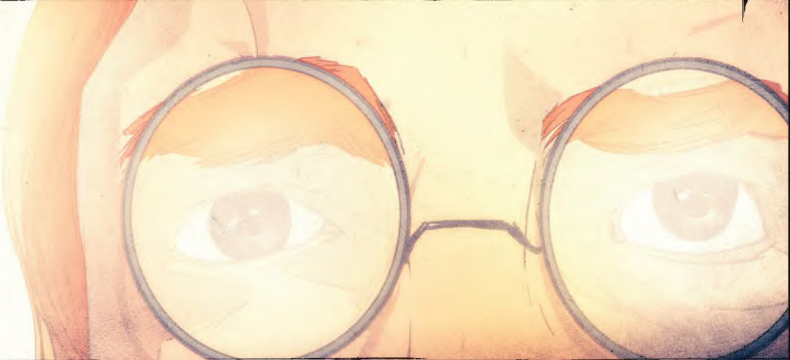


BLUDD?!

JESUS...
I KNEW THAT
PRICK WAS BAD
NEWS!




BUT IF
HE'S COMING,
WHY DO YOU
WANT ME TO
LEAVE?



BECAUSE YOU'RE
NOT SAFE HERE. YOUR
COSTUME WANTS YOU TO
STAY BECAUSE BEING HERE
MAKES IT STRONGER. WITHOUT
THE FORCES OF HEAVEN OR
HELL TO INTERFERE, IT'LL GROW
FASTER AND STRONGER THAN
EVER BEFORE. THAT'S WHY
IT NEEDS YOU TO THINK
YOU'RE NOT
WEARING IT.



MY
COSTUME?
IT'S ON ME?
AND YOU CAN
SEE IT?



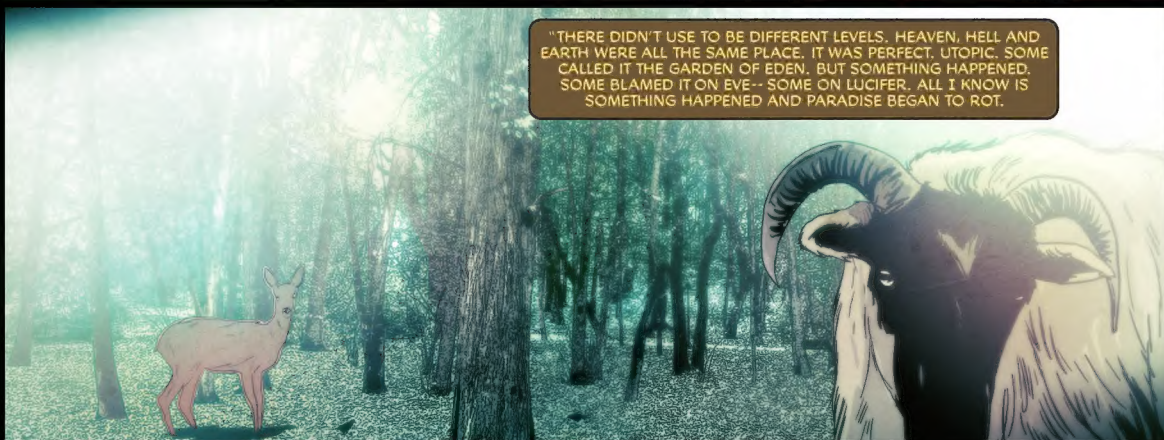
YES. THOUGH
IT'S ONLY UP TO YOUR
CHEST. BUT IT'LL SWALLOW
YOU SOON. THAT'S WHY EVERY-
ONE'S STARING AT YOU-- THEY'RE
WATCHING YOUR COSTUME, NOT
YOU. IF YOU LET IT CONTROL
YOU-- BLUDD WILL USE IT
AGAINST ALL OF US
EVENTUALLY.

BUT THE
ONLY WAY HE CAN
GET HERE IS THROUGH THE
COSTUME. AND HE KNOWS THAT!
WE WON'T STAND A CHANCE. SO YOU
WANT TO HELP? THEN KEEP BLUDD
AWAY FROM US. AND MAYBE IN
TIME GOD WILL REMEMBER HE'S
ABANDONED ALL OF
OUR SOULS.



HOW DO YOU KNOW HE WON'T FIND ANOTHER WAY HERE?

WE DON'T. WE'RE HOPING YOU'LL KILL HIM LONG BEFORE THAT. BUT YOU CAN'T IF YOU DON'T KNOW WHAT YOU'RE UP AGAINST. AND SINCE WE DON'T HAVE MUCH TIME... I NEED YOU TO LISTEN.



"THERE DIDN'T USE TO BE DIFFERENT LEVELS. HEAVEN, HELL AND EARTH WERE ALL THE SAME PLACE. IT WAS PERFECT. UTOPIC. SOME CALLED IT THE GARDEN OF EDEN. BUT SOMETHING HAPPENED. SOME BLAMED IT ON EVE-- SOME ON LUCIFER. ALL I KNOW IS SOMETHING HAPPENED AND PARADISE BEGAN TO ROT.

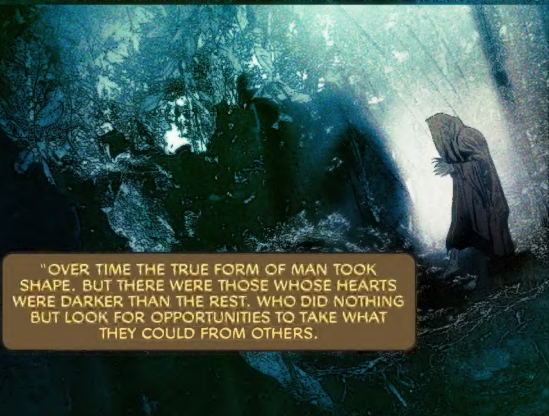
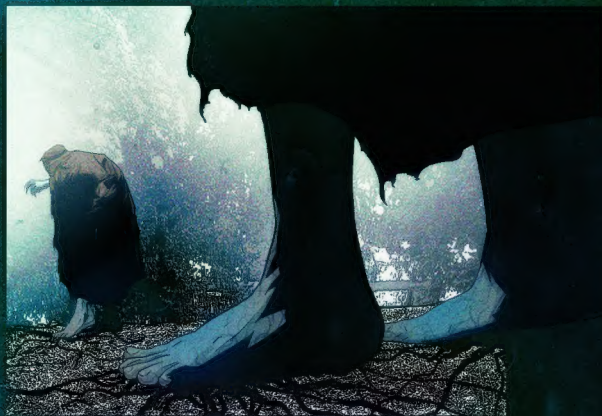


"SIN. EVIL. GIVE IT WHATEVER NAME YOU WANT... MAN GAVE BIRTH TO IT. FOR MILLIONS OF YEARS THE GARDEN HAD SUSTAINED ALL LIFE, BUT WHEN ADAM AND EVE CAME, THAT'S WHEN THINGS WENT TO SHIT. OR MORE SPECIFICALLY, WHEN GOD GAVE MAN COGNIZANT THOUGHT IS WHEN IT ALL BEGAN TO FALL APART.

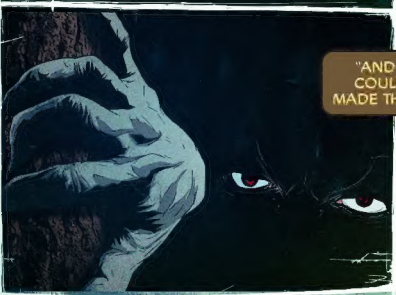
"WE JUST COULDN'T HELP OURSELVES. LUST, GREED, AND THE REST OF THE 'DEADLY SINS' CAME TO BE. THAT'S WHEN MAN BEGAN HIS QUEST FOR ETERNAL LIFE AND POWER. HE COULDN'T BE CONTENT TO ROAM THE EARTH LIKE THE ANIMALS, ONLY TAKING WHAT WAS NEEDED TO SUSTAIN HIMSELF.



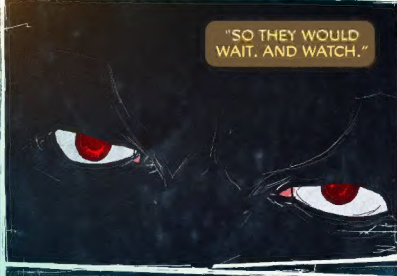
"NO. HE HAD TO HAVE MORE."



"OVER TIME THE TRUE FORM OF MAN TOOK SHAPE. BUT THERE WERE THOSE WHOSE HEARTS WERE DARKER THAN THE REST. WHO DID NOTHING BUT LOOK FOR OPPORTUNITIES TO TAKE WHAT THEY COULD FROM OTHERS."

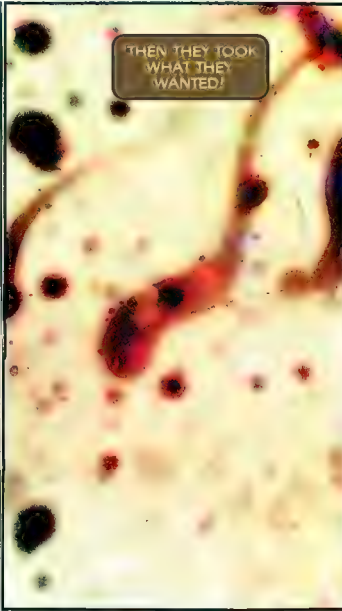
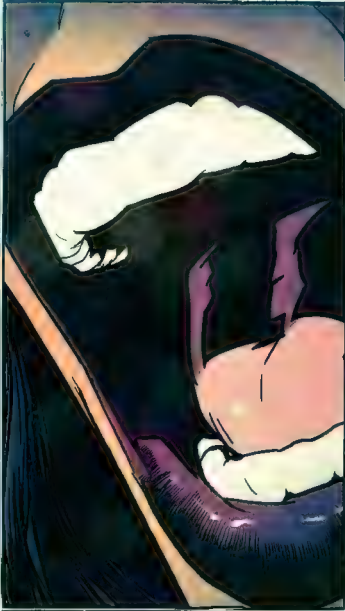


"AND THE THINGS THEY COULDN'T HAVE... ONLY MADE THEM DESIRE IT MORE."

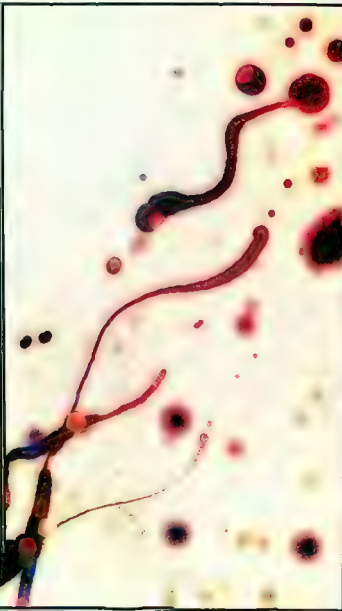


"SO THEY WOULD WAIT. AND WATCH."





"THEN THEY TOOK
WHAT THEY
WANTED!"

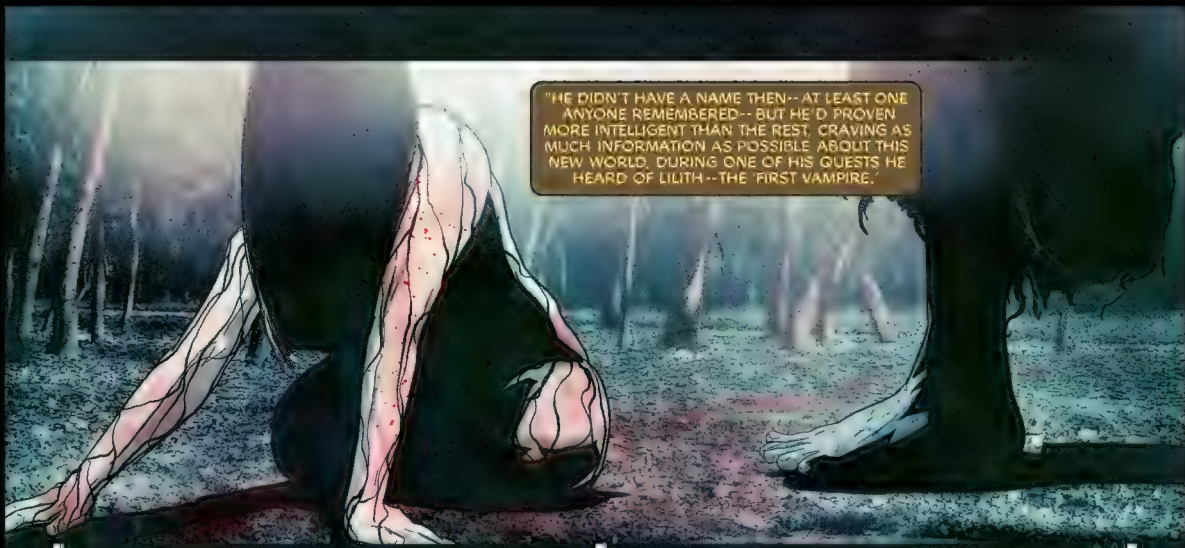


"WITHOUT
GUILT, OR
REMORSE,
BECAUSE
THEY FELT
NOTHING!"

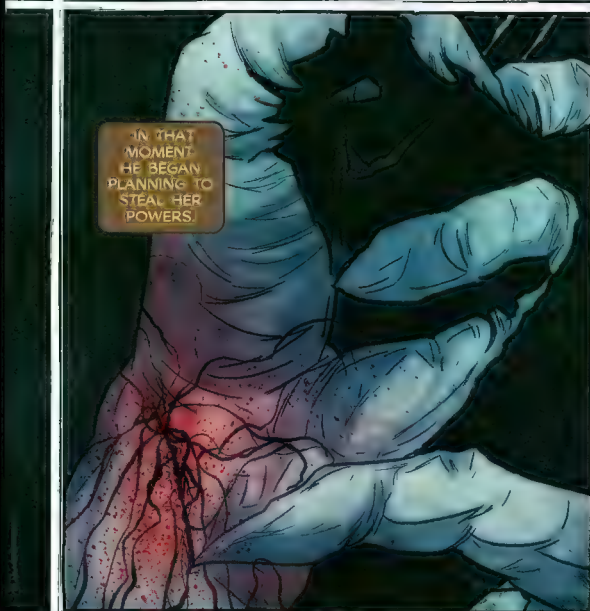


"THEIR VICTIMS
DIDN'T HAVE THAT
SAME LUXURY!"

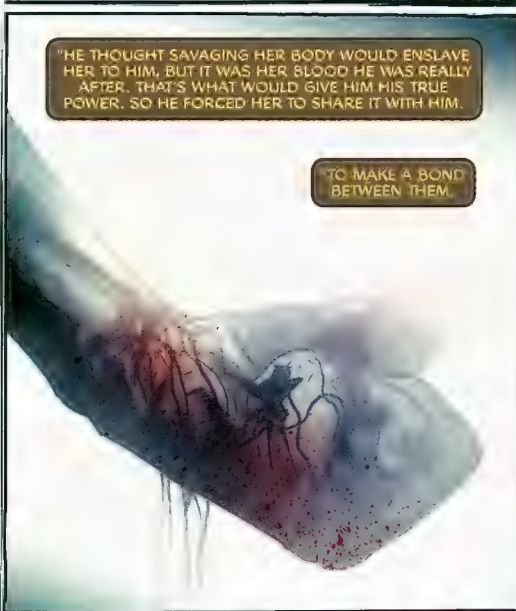
"YET AMONG ALL THESE
DEPRIVED, COLD-
HEARTED MEN, ONE
STOOD OUT FROM ALL
THE OTHERS."



"HE DIDN'T HAVE A NAME THEN-- AT LEAST ONE ANYONE REMEMBERED-- BUT HE'D PROVEN MORE INTELLIGENT THAN THE REST, CRAVING AS MUCH INFORMATION AS POSSIBLE ABOUT THIS NEW WORLD. DURING ONE OF HIS QUESTS HE HEARD OF LILITH-- THE FIRST VAMPIRE."



"IN THAT MOMENT HE BEGAN PLANNING TO STEAL HER POWERS."




"HE THOUGHT SAVAGING HER BODY WOULD ENSLAVE HER TO HIM, BUT IT WAS HER BLOOD HE WAS REALLY AFTER. THAT'S WHAT WOULD GIVE HIM HIS TRUE POWER. SO HE FORCED HER TO SHARE IT WITH HIM."

"TO MAKE A BOND BETWEEN THEM."




"THEN HE DID SOMETHING LILITH WASN'T PREPARED FOR."





HE BEGAN DRAINING
HIS OWN ENERGY
FORCE, ESSENTIALLY
KILLING HIMSELF
AND TRANSFERRED IT
INTO LILITH'S BODY.



"BECAUSE HE KNEW HER BODY
HAD HOUSED THE VAMPIRE POWERS
ALREADY AND THAT HIS OWN
MORTAL FLESH WOULD NOT
WITHSTAND CENTURIES OF ABUSE.
WHEN HE FINISHED DRINKING HIS
OWN BLOOD THE TRANSFORMATION
WAS COMPLETE."



IT'S WHERE HE GOT HIS NAME
BLUDD!

NOW ALL
THIS TIME LATER
YOUR COSTUME AND
BLUDD HAVE SHOWN THEY
SHARE A COMMON LINK.
BOTH HAVE PROVEN THEY'RE
WILLING TO DESTROY THEM-
SELVES, AS WELL AS OTHERS,
IF IT SERVES THEIR END
GOAL. THAT ACT IS THE
VERY DEFINITION
OF 'EVIL.'

I'M
CONFUSED.
THE BLUDD I
KNOW IS A
MAN.

NO,
HE'S NOT.
HE'S A
CHANGE-
LING!

HE CAN
CHANGE
SHAPES?

IF HE
WANTS. BUT
HE HASN'T. HIS
ARROGANCE TELLS
HIM HE'S INVULNERABLE.
HE LOST THE LOOK
OF LIUTH BECAUSE
HE KNEW CLOAKING
HIMSELF AS A FEMALE
WOULD BE A
HINDRANCE. MEN
RULED MOST
OF EARTH
THEN.

LET ME
GUESS--
HE BEGAN
BUILDING AN
ARMY OF
VAMPIRES.

QUITE
THE
OPPOSITE.
HE BEGAN
KILLING THE
VAMPIRES.

WHY DO
THAT?



BECAUSE
BEFORE HE BUILT
HIS OWN ARMY BLUDD
WANTED TO MAKE SURE
THERE WOULD NEVER BE
ANOTHER VAMPIRE THAT WOULD
EVER OPPOSE HIM. HE SPENT
CENTURIES BUILDING HIS
POWERS AND HUNTING DOWN
EVERY LAST VAMPIRE THAT
PRE-EXISTED HIM UNTIL
HE WAS THE LAST
LIVING VAMPIRE
ON EARTH.

ONLY THEN DID
HE BEGIN CREATING
HIS OWN STRAIN OF
VAMPIRES, IN WHICH
EVERY ONE WOULD HAVE
A PIECE OF HIS D.N.A.
INSIDE THEM!



THAT'S WHEN
HIS CIRCLE OF POWER
REALLY GREW. GHENGIS
KHAN. JACK THE RIPPER. THE
NAZIS. IF IT WASN'T ACTUALLY
HIM THROUGHOUT
HISTORY-- IT WAS ONE OF
HIS CHOSEN!

DON'T EVER
FORGET THAT!
SUSPECT EVERYONE
YOU MEET. TRUST
NO ONE!


HE WANTS MY
COSTUME. I UNDERSTAND.
BUT YOU HAVEN'T SAID WHY
HE WANTS TO KILL EVERY-
ONE HERE.

I TOLD YOU!
WE'RE HIDING
SOMETHING
FROM HIM.

MUST BE
SOMETHING
IMPORTANT.

IT IS. **LIUTH.**
WE HAVE LIUTH'S
SOUL. BLUDD KNOWS
SHE'S THE ONLY VAMPIRE HE
DOESN'T CONTROL. WHEN HE
TOOK OVER HER BODY HE WAS
TOO NAIVE TO WORRY ABOUT
HER SOUL. SHE'S HERE. HAS
BEEN FOR A VERY LONG TIME
AND THAT PISSES BLUDD OFF
TO NO END BECAUSE HE
CAN'T GET HERE
WITHOUT HELP.





YOUR
COSTUME IS
THAT HELP.

THAT'S WHY HE
WANTS IT SO BADLY. HE
THINKS HEAVEN'S HIDING HER--
WHICH, FOR NOW, IS GOOD FOR US-- IT
BUYS US TIME. BUT IF HE EVER BREACHES
HEAVEN HE'LL FIND OUT WHERE SHE
REALLY IS AND THAT'S WHEN HE'LL
THROW ALL HE HAS AT STEALING--
THEN CONTROLLING--
YOUR COSTUME.



RIGHT
NOW HE
WANTS YOUR
COSTUME
BECAUSE HE
THINKS IT'LL BRING
HIM MORE POWER.
IN REALITY IT'LL
BRING HIM LILITH.
IF HE GETS
HER... GOD
SAVE US
ALL!

BUT YOU
NEED TO GO!
NOW!



WHAT...?
I CAN HELP
THOUGH.



NO!
NOT
HERE!

GET
OUT! YOUR
COSTUME... IT'S
ALMOST
COVERING
YOU!



**FIGHT
IT!** WITH
EVERYTHING
YOU HAVE THE
SECOND YOU
CAN SEE
IT!



MY
DAD
CAN HELP
YOU
LATER.

HOW?
HOW DO
I GET
BACK?



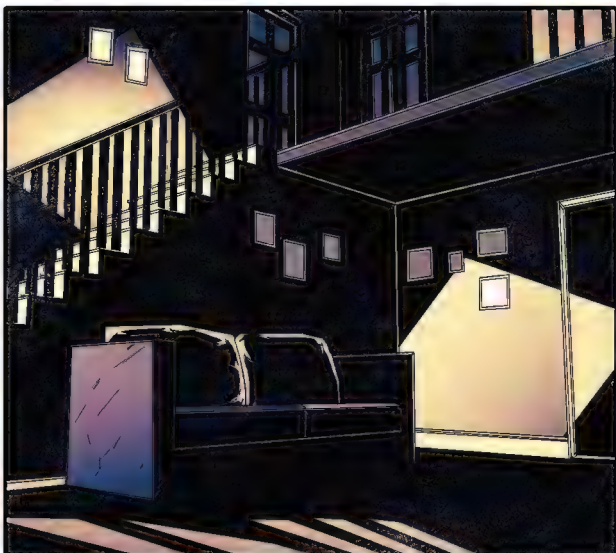
YOUR
DAD?
WHO'S
HE?

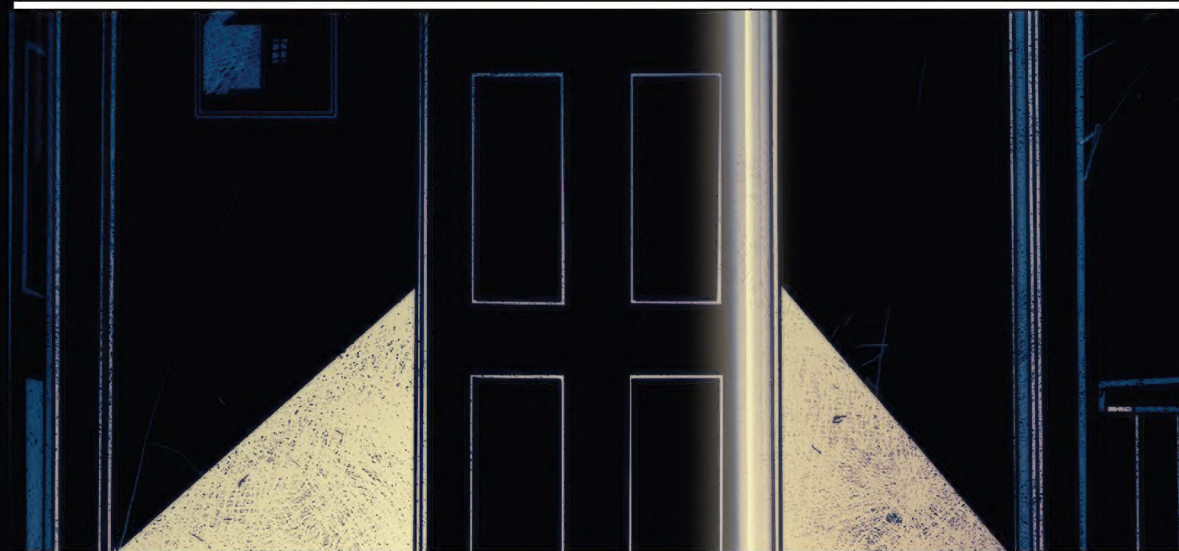


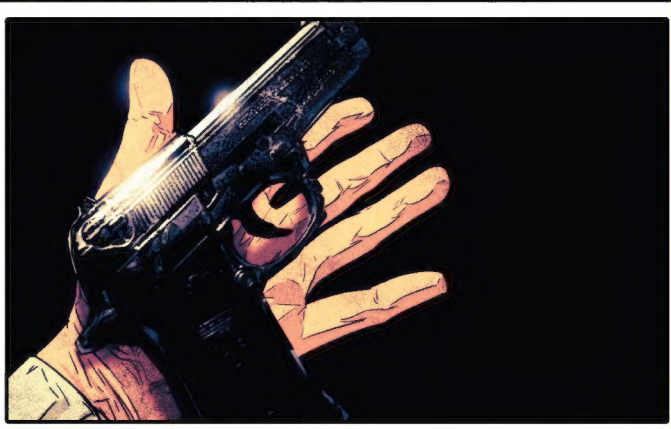
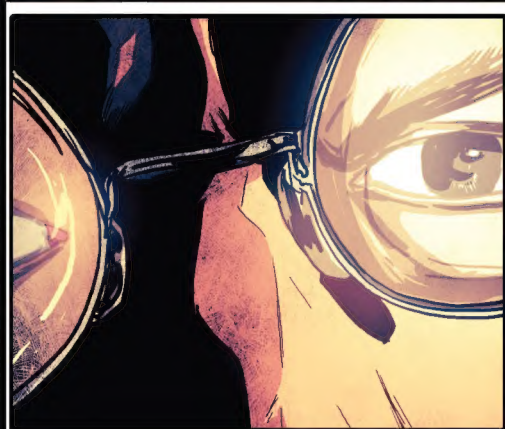
"YOU'RE IN CONTROL!"

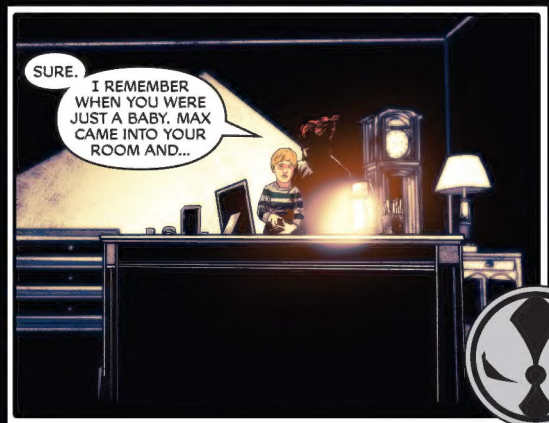
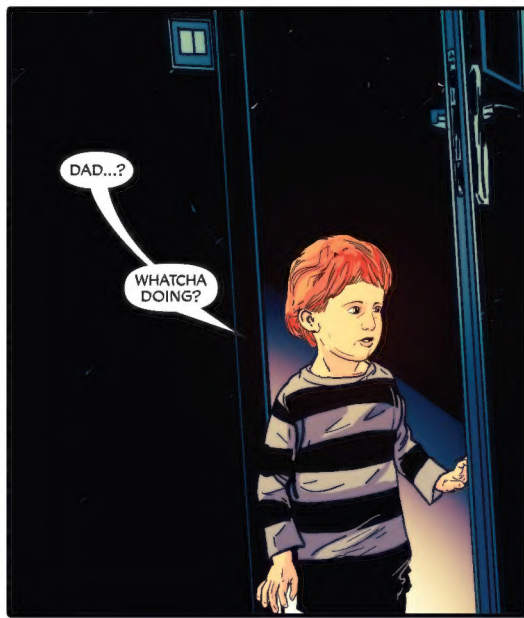
"IT BROUGHT YOU HERE!! GODAMMIT--
NOW MAKE IT TAKE YOU BACK!!"













Tyrant
Lizard
King

EMPIRE